



St Bernadette's Primary School



January 2026 Newsletter

Happy New Year!

We would like to wish all our families a Happy and Healthy New Year. We look forward to working with the children and their families. Thank you for your continued support.



Update your contact details

Please let us know about any changes to your:



Email



Telephone number



Address

Outdoor Learning and Play

Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing for our ever changing Scottish Weather.



parentsportal.scot

Have you signed-up to parentsportal.scot yet? Parentsportal replaces the traditional school bag run allowing parents/guardians of children attending school to sign forms and receive important information online. You can sign-up at www.parentsportal.scot

General Illness

As per NHS guidance, if your child is displaying sickness or stomach upset, your child **must not** return to school until they are 48 hours clear of symptoms. If your child falls ill during the school day, we will contact you via telephone. Please ensure all contact details are up to date.

There is advice from NHS here: [Is my child too ill for school](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/when-to-call-the-doctor/child-when-to-call-the-doctor/)

We recommend all parent/carers sign up as you can report absences, book parent consultations, see report cards, respond to permission slips, update your child's record, make school payments and much more! You can do all of this in one central place. Please click: www.parentsportal.scot to sign-up.

February Holiday

Just a reminder that the February weekend in 13th – 17th Feb. 17th Feb is an In-service Day. School shall reopen to pupils on 18th Feb.

P7 Residential

Final payments for the P7 Residential trip to Dalguise are due to be paid by **30th January**. Please ensure that all payments are made on Ipayimpact as soon as possible.

Please remember that there is access to funding to help families with financial difficulties. Please contact Mrs Savage, in strictest confidence, for more information

Late coming in school

There are a number of children coming into school late. School starts at **9am**, if your child arrives after the bell has gone he/she will be marked as late. When children are late it causes disruption to the class and has an effect on your child's learning.

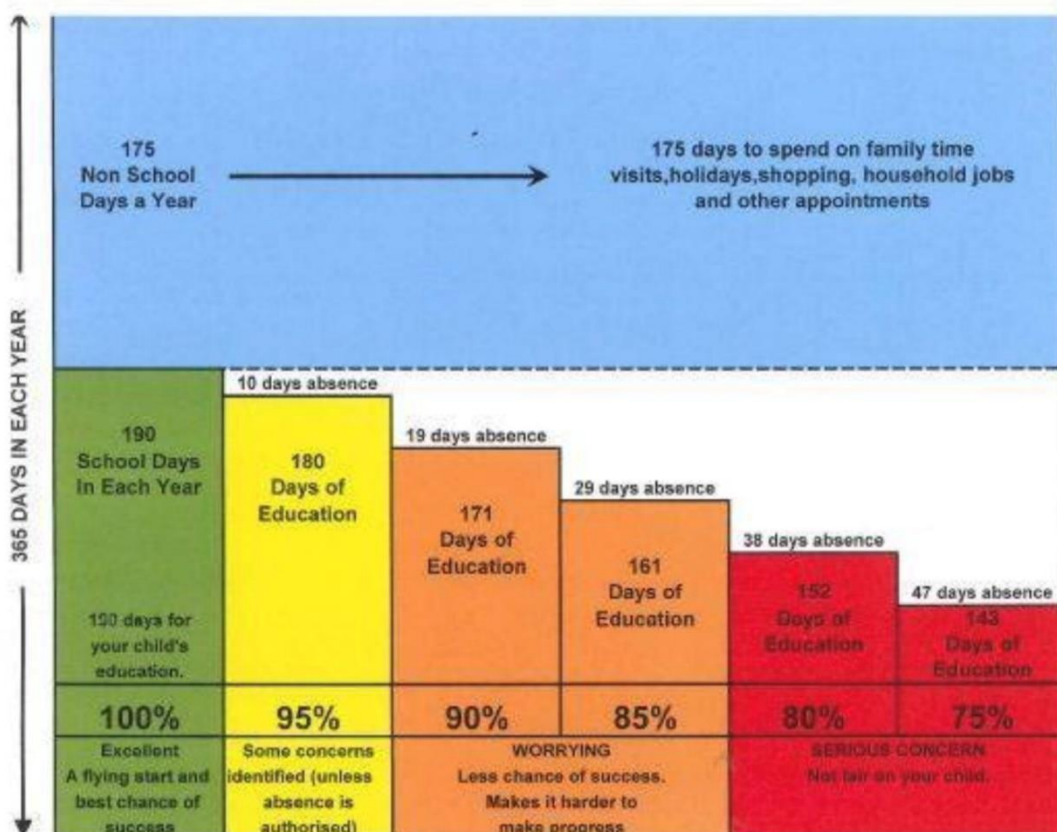


Attendance Procedure in Falkirk Council

Please contact the school office on 503400 before 9.15am on the day of your child's absence. If you wish, you can leave a message on the school's answering machine. **Please do not message the class teacher with absence/appointments messages.** If your child is absent from school and no email or telephone call has been received to explain their absence, you will receive a text requesting you contact the school. This system gives you the added peace of mind of knowing that if you have not had a text then your child has arrived safely in school. As this is a centralised system, a mobile phone number will display and the message will include the school name and contact number. **Please respond to this promptly.**

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

ATTENDANCE DURING ONE SCHOOL YEAR	EQUALS APPROXIMATE DAYS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY WEEKS ABSENCE	WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY LESSONS MISSED
95%	9 days	2 weeks	40 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	80 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	120 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	160 lessons



P1 Enrolment Details

Starting primary school in August 2026

If your child is due to start school in August 2026, you must enrol them for their catchment school between 1 November and 31 December 2025.

Who should start school?

Children who turn 5 on or before 12 August 2025 must start school in August 2026.

Children who turn 5 between 13 August 2026 and 28 February 2027 can also start school in August 2026.

You'll need:

- A My Falkirk account to enrol
- Address verification a (checked against Council Tax records)
- Birth certificate or passport (if not attending a Falkirk Council or Partner nursery)
- Baptism certificate (if enrolling for a Roman Catholic school).

Placing requests (Primary 1 & Secondary 1)

If you'd like your child to attend:

- A school out with your catchment area; or
- A denominational school and your child/children are not baptised Roman Catholic.

You must submit a placing request between 4 December 2025 and 15 March 2026.

School Enrolment



Placing Requests



FALKIRK COUNCIL



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

Staffing News

We welcome Miss Williams to St. Bernadette's. Miss Williams has joined us as a Support for Learning Assistant.

Congratulations to Mrs Savage, Mrs Duncan and Mrs Gallacher who recently attended a Graduation Ceremony for the Diploma in Catechetics in Edinburgh. This was attended by Archbishop Cushley and Father John.



Cakes and Sweet Treats

Can we please remind parents/carers that unfortunately, we cannot allow cakes or sweet treats to be brought in to be shared in class. We understand that this is usually a kind thing to do to celebrate your child's birthday but we have children and staff with several food allergies. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Strathcarron's Big Birthday Tea

All family and friends of St. Bernadette's are welcome to join us on 20th March 10am – 12noon for a cake and a cuppa as we raise funds for Strathcarron Hospice.



Mini Vinnies

SSVP was started by young people way back in 1833, that's why we think it's so important to have young people involved. Mini Vinnies are SSVP groups based in primary schools and are the youngest branch of our Vincentian family tree.

The main purpose is to help anyone one need by following our "See Think, Do" plan.

- SEE: Look around your school and local community to see who needs help.
- THINK: Plan how you could help.
- ...and DO it!

It also provides wonderful opportunities for young people to share ideas and concerns, to have fun, learn, pray and support each other. The SSVP model of faith in action is a great way to assist young people with thinking and talking about their spirituality – connecting their beliefs and values with service activities and issues in their community can help to make their faith real, meaningful and relevant.

Our first project is going to be working with older people that are isolated and alone, we will link with local Care Homes. If any Parents/Carers of P4 would like to get in involved, please contact Mrs Gallacher.



News from our Parent Council

200 Club Winners

Please see the winners of the November & December ("The Big One!" 200 Club draw.

November:

£100 -175 Sheena Short

£50 - 88 Christine Stones

£50 - 145 Jim Clark

£25 - 28 Margaret Tarrant

£25 - 62 Anne Marie O'Connor

December:

£250 - 45 Mrs A Trainor

£100 - 215 George Risk

£100 - 63 Morag Main

£75 - 32 Debbie O'Donnell

£75 - 205 Michael Canny

£75 - 57 Natalie Weston

£50 - 214 Esther Travis

£50 - 124 Clare Kavanagh

£50 - 206 Sinead McLaughlin

£50 - 141 Maureen Moore

£25 - 196 Mhairi Walton

£25 - 116 Sarah Clark

£25 - 5 Rachel O'Reilly

£25 - 125 Denise Rawdon

£25 - 87 Mary Galbraith



Congratulations to the above winners! The prize winnings can be collected from the school office between 9am and 3.30pm any day.

Thanks again to all the members for continuing to support the 200 Club.

Anyone wishing to join the 200 club please contact stbernadettes200club@gmail.com. We would love to have more people join up to help support the school.

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 4th February at 6.30pm. All welcome.

School Car Park

We are very lucky that we have such a large car park. Can we please remind all parents/carers to be respectful of others when using our School Car Park. The carpark has a one-way system in place for the safety of our children. Some cars are continuing to access the top carpark by turning right on entry to the carpark, rather than driving around the main part of the carpark first. This may lead to an avoidable accident. The school cannot be held to account if cars are damaged by drivers accessing the top carpark in the wrong way.

Can we please ask that children are supervised when walking near the school car park, we have had reports of children running in front of cars.

Disabled bays should only be used for those who need them.



In addition, no parents should be using the staff carpark or bus bay to drop off or collect children.

Allergies

For the health and safety of all pupils please ensure that your child is not provided with any nut products at school. Some children are bringing products such as Peanut Butter/Nutella sandwiches and Dubai chocolate.

We have pupils and staff who are severely allergic to peanuts/nuts. Peanuts/nuts do not have to be eaten by an allergic person to cause an allergic reaction; they can be ingested or contaminate tables, hands

etc. Any peanut/nut products will be returned home in packed lunch boxes unopened.

All Falkirk Council school lunch menus do not have nut products as standard.

Further information can be viewed here:

<http://www.anaphylaxis.org.uk/what-is-anaphylaxis/signs-and-symptoms>

Many thanks for your cooperation in this matter.



Rag Bag Collection

Thank you for all your Rag Bag donations. Our last collection weighed 126kilos, raising £25.20 for school funds. All donations are most welcome, please place the bags directly into our Rag Bag bin (beside the cycle shed) or pass to your child to hand into the school. There are bags available in the main reception. We Collect:

- All Clothing
- Paired Shoes (tied together)
- Handbags, bags, ties & belts
- Household linen & towels



Achievements

Has your child celebrated an achievement out of school?
e.g. Dancing, Football, Tae Kwon Do? We would love to hear
about it so we can share the good news in our next Newsletter!

Please email the school at
stbernadettesprimaryschool@education.falkirk.sch.uk
and let us know all about it!

Mobile Phones

If your child brings their mobile phone to school can we please ask that you reiterate at home, that it must be switched off and in their school bag throughout the school day. If any mobile phone is seen during the day or disrupts the class it shall be confiscated by the Class Teacher and given to the Headteacher who will then contact the parent/carer and arrange for the parent/carer to collect it from school, it will not be given back to your child.

Head Lice

We would encourage you to check your child at regular intervals to prevent the spread of head lice. If our child becomes infected, we would appreciate if you could inform us as soon as possible. All information provided will be strictly confidential.

No Smoking/Vaping

Can we please gently remind parents/carers that there is NO Smoking/Vaping in school grounds.



School Website

Please check the school website regularly as this will be a valuable source of information for parents. The address is <http://stbernadettes.edusite.co.uk/>

Bluesky

Please follow us on: [@stbernadettesps](https://bsky.social/stbernadettesps) — Bluesky



Please remember that there is access to funding to help families with financial difficulties. Please contact Mrs Savage, in strictest confidence, for more information.

Keep up-to-date with Parish News on: <http://www.stbernadette.rcstanded.org.uk/current>
and <https://www.facebook.com/stbernadettelarbert>



PFFA Community & Fundraising Events

**OCT
7**

**COFFEE MORNING
10:00-11:30**

Enjoy a cake and a cuppa in our newly refurbished community room.

**OCT
29**

**SPOOKY MOVIE NIGHT
6:00-8:00**

Bring you blankets and snacks for a spooky movie after dark.

**NOV
28**

**STRATHCARRON
HAMPER**

Donate your items by this date for our Christmas hampers.

**DEC
10**

**FAMILY EVENT
CHRISTMAS**

CANCELLED

Enjoy stories, crafts and treats with a festive feel.

**MAR
20**

**STRATHCARRON
BIG TEA
10:00-12:00**

Join us for a cake and a cuppa as we raise funds for Strathcarron Hospice.

**MAR
27**

**SCIAF FUN DAY
9:00-3:00**

A whole school dress down day with lots of fundraising fun.

**MAY
22**

**FAMILY SUMMER
PICNIC
1:00-3:00**

Join us in the playground for a family picnic and games.

**JUNE
5**

**PUPIL CARWASH
9:00-11:00**

Have your car expertly(!) washed by the pupils as we raise money for our chosen charities.



Please pop these dates in your calendar.

Full details will be sent in advance of each event .

All members of the St Bernadette's family are most welcome.

Event Calendar 2025/26 (Subject to change)

Month	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Term	Wk	Notes
Sep 2025	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		36	Holiday - School Closed
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		37	In-service Day - School closed to pupils
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		38	
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		39	Reporting to Parents
	29	30	1	2	3	4	5		40	Tuesday 11.11.24 Parent Consultations 3.30 – 6.00pm
Oct	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		41	Thursday 13.11.24 Parent Consultations 4.30 – 7.00pm
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		42	Tuesday 17.03.26 Parent Consultations 3.30 – 6pm
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		43	Thursday 19.03.26 Parent Consultations 3.30 – 6pm
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2		44	Friday 19.06.26: End of term reports issued
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		45	Celebration Event
Nov	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		46	Wednesday 29.10.25: Spooky Movie Night 6 – 7.30pm
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		47	Thursday 20.11.25: Autumn Disco
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		48	Thursday 04.12.25 Parent Council Movie Night 6 – 8pm
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		49	Tuesday 9.12.25 : P5/6 & P6 am, – P7 pm Christmas party
Dec	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		50	Thursday 11.12.25: P4 Christmas party pm
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		51	Friday 12.12.25 : ELC & P1 Christmas Party am
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		52	Christmas Lunch
	29	30	31	1	2	3	4		1	PFFA Christmas Family afternoon pm
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		2	Tuesday 16.12.25: P2 & P3 Christmas party am
Jan 2026	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		3	ELC sing-a-long pm
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		4	Wednesday 17.12.25: School show (9.30am and 1.30pm)
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1		5	Wednesday 17.12.25: School show (9.30am and 1.30pm)
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		6	
Feb	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		7	2026
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		8	Thursday 05.02.26 P7 Scottish Celebration Evening
	23	24	25	26	27	28	1		9	Week 23.3.26 – 27.03.26: P7 Residential
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		10	Friday 27.03.26: SCIAF Fun Day
Mar	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		11	Wednesday 20.5.26: Sports Day option 1 - all day
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22		12	TBC ELC Sports Day 1.30pm
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		13	Friday 22.05.26: Family Summer Picnic 1pm – 3pm
	30	31	1	2	3	4	5		14	Wednesday 27.5.26: Sports Day option 2 - all day
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		15	Friday 05.06.25: Pupil Carwash 9am – 11am
Apr	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		16	
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		17	
	27	28	29	30	1	2	3		18	
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		19	
May	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		20	
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		21	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		22	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		23	TBC : ELC Moving on Celebration 1.30pm
Jun	8	9	10	11	12	13	14		24	TBC : P7 Leavers Assembly 9.30am
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21		25	TBC : P7 Leavers Mass 1.30pm
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		26	Mass 1.30pm ALL welcome
	29	30	1	2	3	4	5		27	Class Led Assembly - followed by child-led learning
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		28	
Jul	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		29	ELC / P1 Transition
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26		30	
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2		31	Religious Observance
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		32	Confirmations at St. Francis Xavier
Aug	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		33	
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		34	
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		35	
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6		36	